

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, Maryland 20852

May 17, 1999

0132 '99 JUL 16 A9:08

**Re: Docket No. 98N-1038, Irradiation in the Production,
Processing, and Handling of Food**

To whom it may concern:

I support the recommendation by the Center for Science in the Public Interest regarding labeling of irradiated foods:

"any foods, or any foods containing ingredients that have been treated by irradiation, should be labeled with a written statement on the principal display panel indicating such treatment. The statement should be easy to read and placed in close proximity to the name of the food and accompanied by the international symbol. If the food is unpackaged, this information should be clearly displayed on a poster in plain view and adjacent to where the product is displayed for sale."

Like other labels, irradiation labels are required by the FDA to be truthful and not misleading. I believe that the terms "treated with radiation" or "treated by irradiation" should be retained. Any phrase involving the word "pasteurization" is misleading because pasteurization is an entirely different process of rapid heating and cooling.

I recognize the radura as information regarding a material fact of food processing. The requirement for irradiation disclosure (both label and radura) should not expire at any time in the future. The material fact of processing remains. Even if some consumers become familiar with the radura, new consumers (e.g., young people, immigrants) will not be. The symbol should be clearly understandable at the point of purchase for everyone. If there is no label, consumers will be misled into believing the food has not been irradiated.

I urge you to extend the comment period past its current end date of May 18th to allow more concerned citizens the time to write in about this issue. Also, please place the comments received on the Internet so that the public can be informed about who is participating in this comment process.

Sincerely,


Audrey Horbeck

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98N 1038

P.S. Over →

Please see underlined. EXT 38

Honesty in labeling, I have heard, is your intention.

Keep the labeling - we need it! Here in New Mexico, there are lots of concerned citizens who really care about Health! Please listen. Thank you

Many of us do not eat micro-waved food because they are altered, msg, because it affects the brain & creates gaps in the synapses, etc. etc. We know that with the high-powered microscopes you would SEE the truth. And, we wish to protect our Health. Besides, there is already too much irradiation in the biosphere in this area. The acupuncture students know that people in this area have already received more than our fair share of poisoning from radiation from Los Alamos - Help!